GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:823
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006
POVERTY RATE IN INDIA
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the poverty rate in India continues to be higher according to latest International Labour Organisation Report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large number of persons are working in low productivity jobs in the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to lift such population out of poverty?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): According to a recent ILO`s report on `Labour and Social Trends in Asia and the Pacific 2006`, 28.6% of the total population in India below the national poverty line in the year 2000.

(c): Labour productivity is person-specific and not job-specific. It is low in India due to lack of infrastructure, technology, skill etc.

(d): Poverty reduction has been an important goal of development policy in India. Emphasis is being placed on upgradation of skills, vocational training and on the implementation of the targeted programmes of poverty alleviation to address the multidimensional nature of poverty.